



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)  
Post Office Box 6898  
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-6898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: 7 JANUARY 2002

EXPIRATION DATE 5 FEBRUARY 2003

REFERENCE NUMBER 4-2002-1341

WATERWAY NUMBER: Colville River 29

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Conoco Phillips Alaska, Inc., Post Office Box 100360, Anchorage, Alaska 99510-0360.

LOCATION: The insulated ice pad is proposed to be located at either Kokoda in section 27, T. 11 N., R. 5 W., Umiat Meridian, Latitude 70°17'6.48" N, Longitude 153°08'23.58" W, or at Carbon in section 4, T. 10 N., R. 1 E., Umiat Meridian, Latitude 70°14'48.51" N, Longitude 151°53'17.21" W, in the National Petroleum Reserve, on the North Slope of Alaska.

WORK: Conoco Phillips Alaska, Inc. is proposing to construct and utilize a 3.9-acre insulated ice pad to oversummer a drilling rig in waters of the United States. The dimensions of the pad will be approximately 312 feet by 544 feet by 6 inches to 24 inches thick. The ice pad will be covered with standard 8-foot by 24-foot by approximately 4-inch to 6-inch thick, 25 psi expanded polystyrene foam insulation. The panels weigh approximately 700 pounds each. The panels will be sandwiched between 8-foot by 24-foot sheets of 7/16-inch thick oriented strand board. Reinforced polyethylene film (visqueen) would be laid under the panels to prevent them from bonding to the ice pad to ensure easy pick-up. Exposed panel surfaces will be covered with a white, opaque surface fabric that is designed to minimize thermal gain, minimize rainwater infiltration to the ice surface, and minimize thermal erosion of the ice pad. Standard rig mats will be placed on the insulated panels with the drilling rig sitting on the mats. Ice berms may be constructed to divert spring runoff from the pad. Berms will be approximately 3-foot high, roughly trapezoidal in cross section with an 8-foot wide base and 4-foot wide top.

PURPOSE: To create a temporary storage pad to oversummer a drilling rig

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A small crew of up to 20 people and selected ice pad construction equipment will be mobilized by rolligan/ATV to the proposed site. The drilling rig will be stored during a single season in either 2003 or 2004. The construction of the insulated ice pad is planned for March 2003 with the rig stored over the summer of 2003. However, depending upon the results of this winter's drilling operations at the Puviag location, the oversummering at Kokoda or Carbon may be deferred to the summer of 2004.

Rope anchors will be utilized to resist wind uplift forces on those panels not protected by the rig. Ten or more thermistor sensors would be installed to monitor ice-surface temperatures. The site will be monitored every 2 to 3 weeks over the summer to collect thermistor sensor data and to provide site maintenance.

Approximately 2,824,000 gallons of water is required for the project, which will take 6 to 8 days to complete. Water will be obtained from permitted lakes.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the threatened Spectacled and Steller's Eiders. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996, 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts which the proposed activity may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits

which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mr. Jim Wolfe at (907) 753-2716 or toll free in Alaska at (800) 478-2712, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

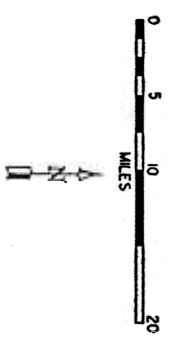
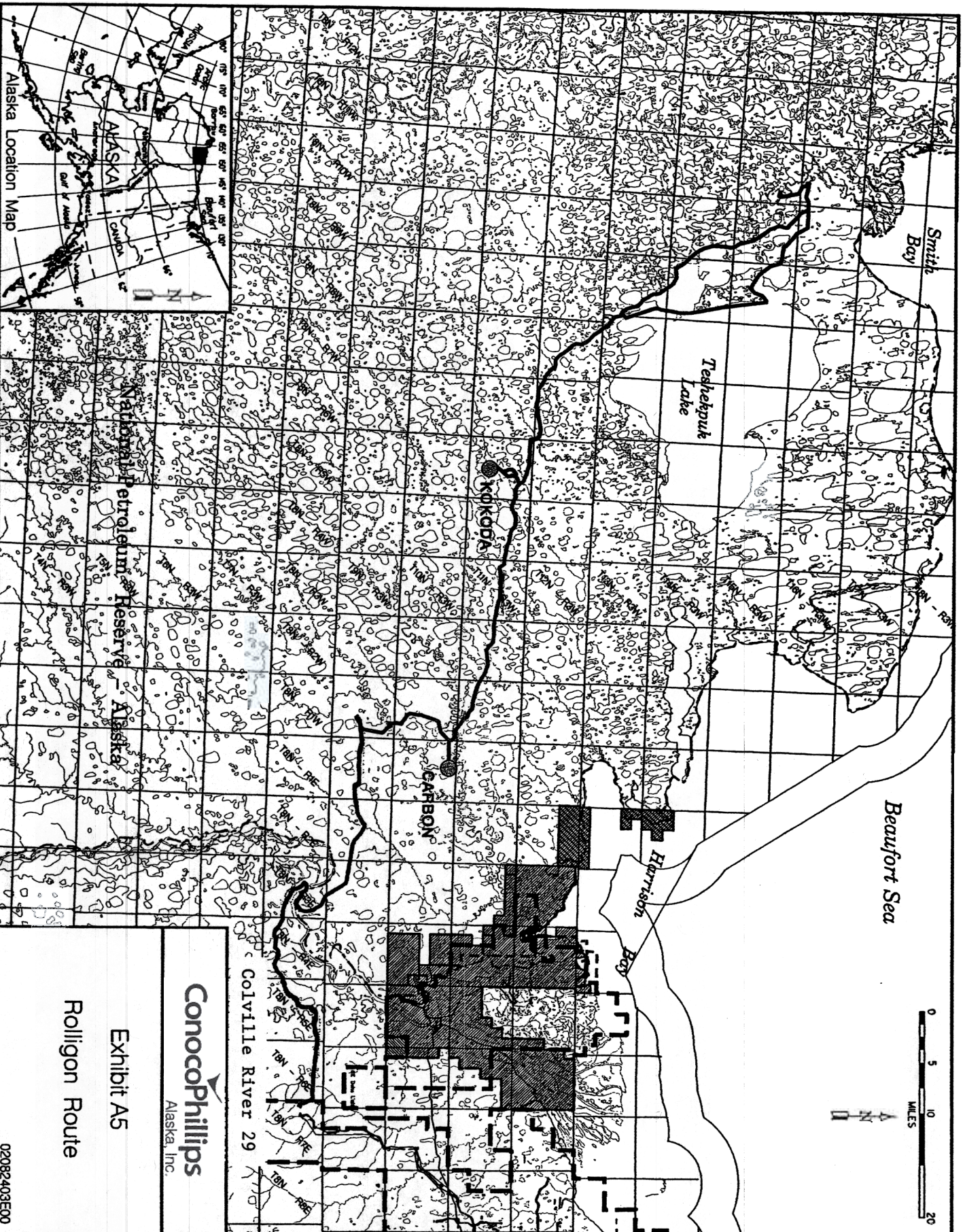
(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer  
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments





Colville River 29

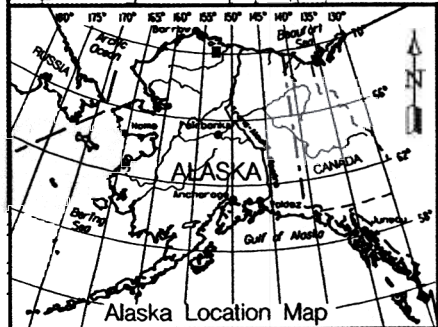
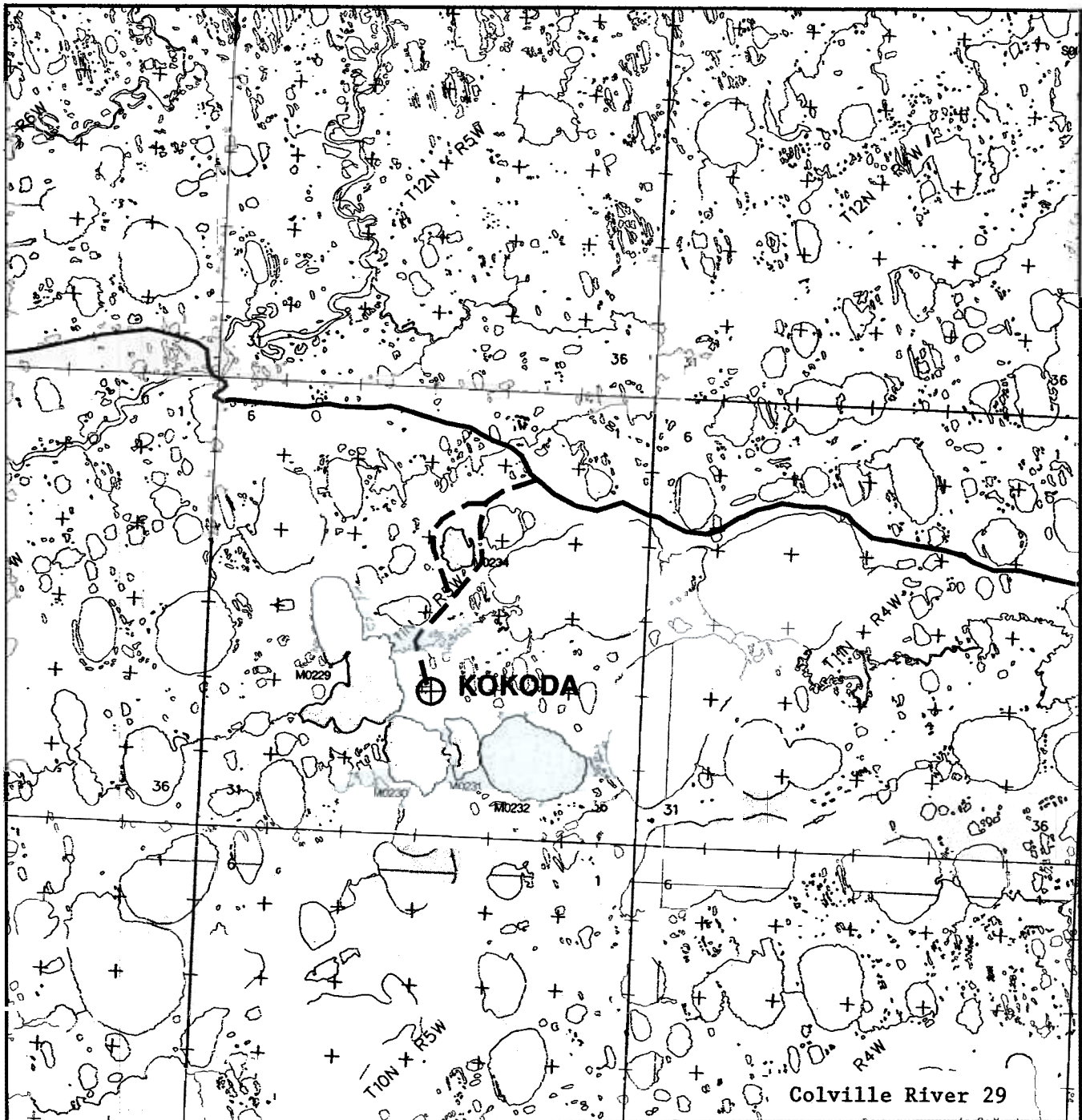
**ConocoPhillips**  
Alaska, Inc.




Exhibit A5

Rolligon Route

02082403E00





-  Fish Bearing Lakes
-  Permitted Rolligon Route
-  Proposed Rolligon Route



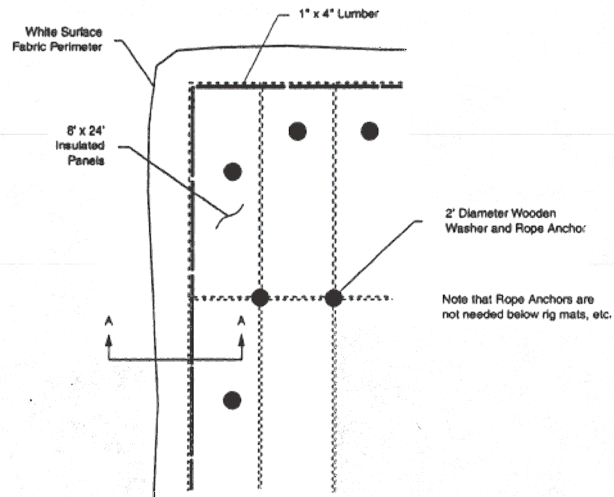
**ConocoPhillips**  
Alaska, Inc.

Exhibit A4a  
Potential Water Source  
Location Map

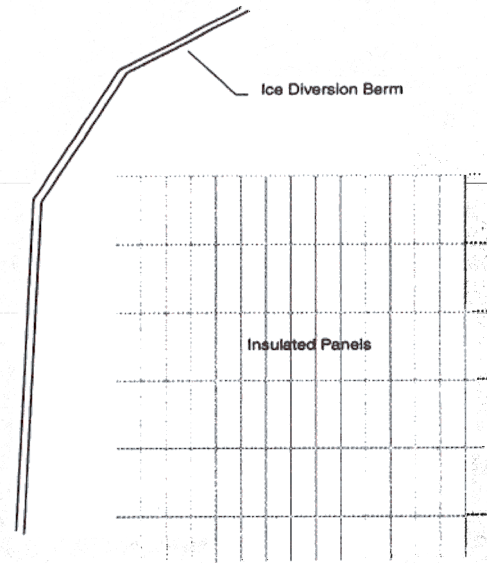
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Plan View of Pad Corner, No Scale

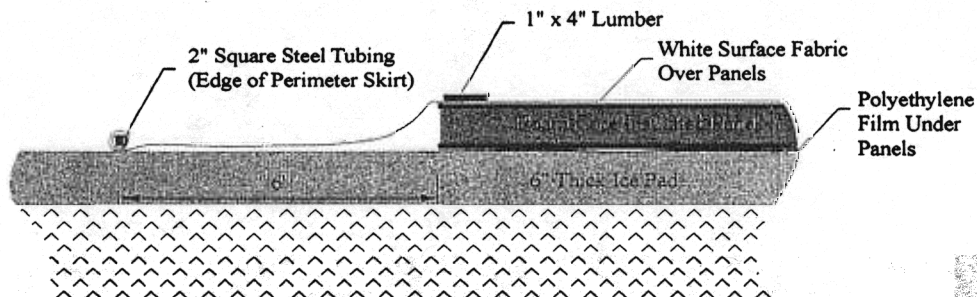


Plan View of Insulated Pad Corner



Conceptual Location Ice Diversion Berm

Section A-A, No Scale



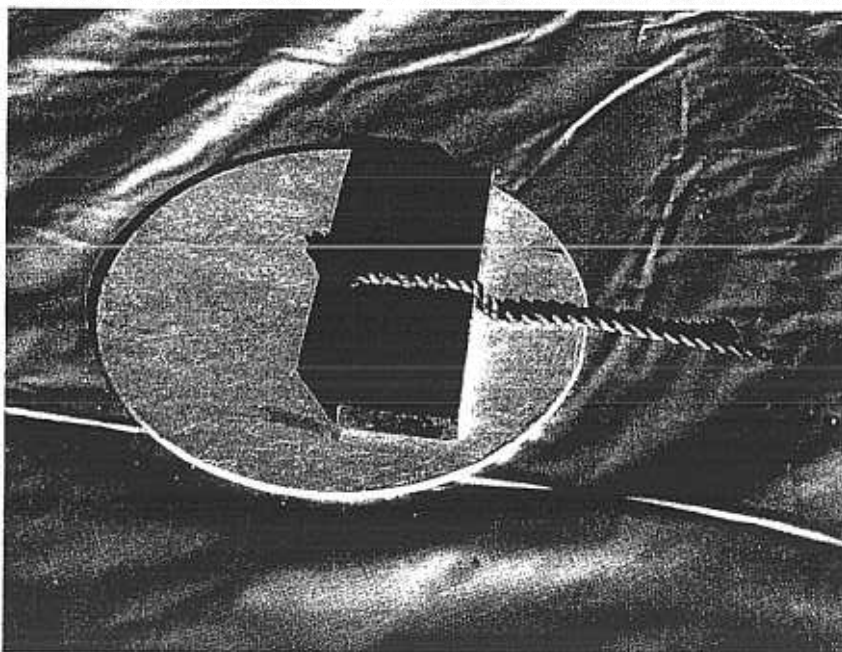
Insulated Panel, Ice pad and Tundra Cross Section

Colville River 29

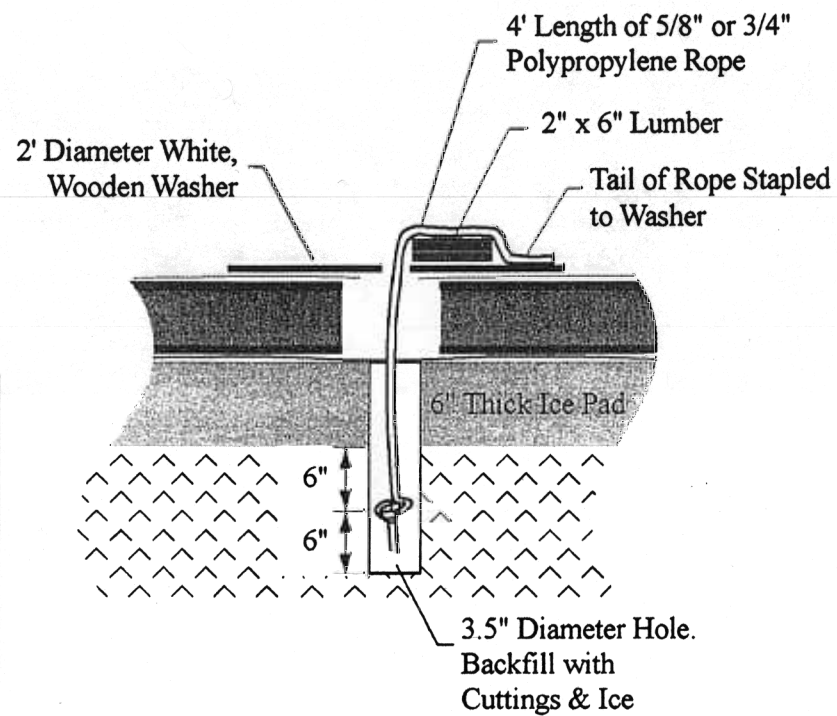
**ConocoPhillips**

**Insulated Ice Pad  
Insulation Details**





**Photo of Rope Anchor**



**Schematic Design of Rope Anchor**

Colville River 29

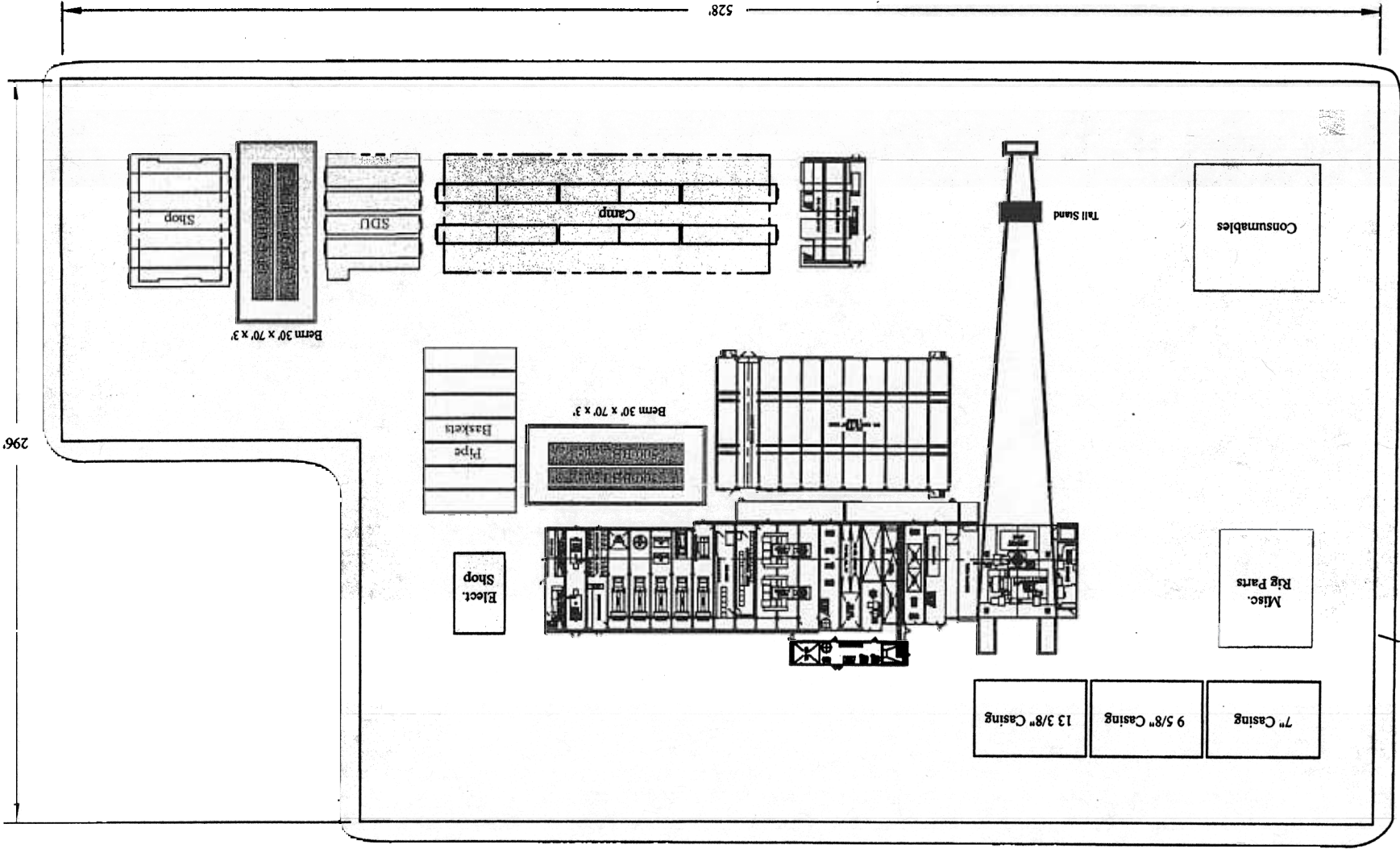
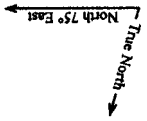
**ConocoPhillips**

**Schematic Design and  
Photo of Rope Anchor**



# ConocoPhillips Oversummer Insulated Ice Pad -- General Site Layout

Rig Assembled, Derrick Laid Down



Insulated Panel Footprint  
Ice Pad Extends 8' Beyond Insulated Pad Footprint (i.e., 544' by 312' ± 2')

# STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Non-Point Source Control Section

401 Certification Program

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No 4-2002-1341, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation  
WQM/401 Certification  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617  
Telephone: (907) 269-7564  
FAX: (907) 269-7508